

NEW RECORDS FOR *AGAPANTHINUS CALLOPHILA* (HYMENOPTERA: ANTHOPHORIDAE), A BEE RARE IN COLLECTIONS¹

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ABSTRACT: The range of *Agapanthinus callophila* is extended several hundred miles and it is suggested that the bee is crepuscular.

The genus *Agapanthinus* was described by LaBerge (1957) to include one species, the female of which was described by T. D. A. Cockerell in 1923 as *Melissodes callophila* (the male was described in the same publication as *Melissodes idonea*). It was known at that time only by the two specimens described by Cockerell and collected from Isla San José, Baja California Sur in the Gulf of California. Two additional male specimens have been examined by this author. One male from south of Mulege, Baja California Sur was collected by J. R. Powers, May 20, 1975, and another male from Warm Sulphur Spring, Inyo County, California was collected by D. Q. Cavagnaro, May 6, 1961 (deposited in the collections of the University of California, Berkeley and the Los Angeles County Museum, respectively). These two specimens extend the known range of *A. callophila* almost 900 miles in a straight line to the north. It is unfortunate that in neither case do we have information concerning the flowers the bees were visiting when collected, nor do the type specimens bear this information.

In examining the two new specimens it was noted that the ocelli as well as the compound eyes of these males are considerably larger than normal for anthophorid bees. This was not emphasized in the original description of the genus, although the female compound eye is described as being twice as long as broad in profile. Other anthophorid bee females usually have compound eyes two and one-half times as long as broad in profile or more. Perhaps *A. callophila* is active collecting pollen in the early morning or late evening hours and can be found on flowers opening at one or both of these times, such as members of the Onagraceae. Thus far, this bee has been collected only in severe desert regions. It is hoped that our improved knowledge of the distribution and of the morphology of this very rare bee will aid collectors in locating and studying this interesting and beautiful native bee.

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LITERATURE CITED

- Cockerell, T. D. A. 1923. Expedition of the California Academy of Sciences to the Gulf of California in 1921. The bees (I). Proc. California Acad. Sci., ser. 4, 12:73-103.
- LaBerge, Wallace E. 1957. The Genera of Bees of the Tribe Eucerini in North and Central America (Hymenoptera, Apoidea). American Mus. Novs., No. 1837, pp. 1-44.
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BOOK REVIEW

KILLER BEES: THE AFRICANIZED HONEY BEE IN THE AMERICAS. Mark L. Winston. 1992. Harvard University Press. 162 pp. \$19.95.

The Africanized honey bee, labelled the "Killer Bee" due to several incidents where humans or animals died from multiple bee stings, has been the focus of much public and scientific attention since its accidental introduction into Brazil in 1956. There was not much known about the biology of this intrusive bee early after its initial spread. Not until Orley R. Taylor began a thorough study funded by the U. S. Department of Agriculture on